

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02420 120955Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /025 W
-----116437 121001Z /21 R
P 120910Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3982

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 2420

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, SNAR, BM
SUBJ: BURMESE REQUEST FOR RECOILLESS RIFLES

REF: (A) STATE 190111, (B) RANGOON 2388, (C) RANGOON 2237,
(D) STATE 167691, (E) RANGOON 1734

1. REF D STATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES "NO OBJECTION.....
TO FMS CASH PURCHASE OR COMMERCIAL PURCHASE" OF 90 MM RECOILLESS
RIFLES AND AMMUNITION BY THE GUB. AS REPORTED REF C, WE CON-
VEYED THIS INFORMATION TO THE GUB MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AGO.
ACCORDING TO REF A, THE DEPARTMENT HAS APPARENTLY CHANGED THIS
POSITION AND IS NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER OR NOT IT WOULD OBJECT
TO THIS POTENTIAL GUB ARMS PURCHASE.

2. WE WILL NOT RPT NOT RAISE THIS MATTER WITH THE GUB AT
THIS TIME, BUT WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE BURMESE MAY RAISE THE
MATTER WITH US, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR INQUIRY
ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF OTHER THAN ARMOR-PIERCING AMMUNITION
(SEE REF B).

3. IT WILL BE EMBARRASSING IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO TELL
THE BURMESE THAT OUR EARLIER STATEMENT TO THEM IS NO LONGER
VALID. MORE IMPORTANT WOULD BE THE ADVERSE IMPACT
THIS WOULD HAVE ON THE GOOD RELATIONS WE HAVE GRADUALLY
BUILT UP WITH BURMESE MILITARY LEADERS IN ORDER TO FURTHER
THE CAUSE OF NARCOTICS CONTROL--THE TOP PRIORITY GOAL OF
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THIS MISSION. WE HOPE THESE FACTORS, AS WELL AS THE REAL
UTILITY OF THESE WEAPONS IN NARCOTICS CONTROL, WILL BE
TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE DEPARTMENT'S CURRENT DELIBERATION
ON THIS MATTER.

4. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF AT THIS STAGE THE DEPARTMENT COULD
INFORM US IF OTHER THAN ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION IS AVAIL-

ABLE (REF B AND C). IF THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IS
NEGATIVE, THIS WOULD PROBABLY CAUSE THE GUB TO SEEK ALTERNA-
TIVE WEAPONS AND THUS RENDER MOOT ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION
OF THE BROADER POLICY QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO AGREE
TO WHAT IS AT PRESENT ONLY A POTENTIAL REPEAT POTENTIAL
GUB REQUEST TO BUY THIS WEAPON.
BARTLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, SMALL ARMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770867/aaaacekp.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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Message ID: 5448755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
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Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 1616795
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BURMESE REQUEST FOR RECOILLESS RIFLES
TAGS: MASS, SNAR, BM
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